—— ..—37—100,000—21-8-43.

REVENUE (19[illegible]) Department.

No. SERIES

G.O. No. 993

Dated 28th April 1945.

[Despatch Abstract.]

PROHIBITION - working of the Prohibition Act for January 1945 - Recorded.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
Revenue Department.

PRESS NOTE NO.89, DATED THE 5TH APRIL 1948.

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Prohibition - Working of the Act - Report for January 1948.

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The following report on the working of Prohibition during January 1948 in the 16 districts where it is now in force, is published for information.

- Enforcement.

Cases - Old Prohibition districts viz., Anantapur, Bellary Kurnool, Cuddapah, Chittoor, North Arcot, Salem and Coimbatore.

The number of cases detected in January was 1345 as against 3301 in December. Of these 58% related to illicit distillation and kindred offences. In Cuddapah district 34 raids were conducted during the month resulting in the seizure of 7500 gallons of fermented wash, more than 100 gallons of illicitly distilled arrack and 36 working stills, the number of stills seized being the largest for a single month since the introduction of Prohibition in the district. In Bellary district large quantities of fermented wash and illicitly distilled arrack were seized. 49 cases of smuggling of liquor from foreign territory were reported in the month or as against 73 cases reported in the previous month. The fall occurred mainly in Anantapur district due partly to stricter control exercised by the Mysore State officials after the Congress party assumed office in the State. The number of cases relating to intoxicating drugs fell from 149 cases in the previous month to 128 cases in the month.

New Prohibition districts viz., Guntur, Nellore, the Nilgiris, South Kanara, Malabar, Tanjore, Trichinopoly and Madura.

The total number of cases detected in these districts also increased from 1152 during December to 1579 during January. The increase occurred mainly in the districts of Guntur, South Kanara, Malabar, Tanjore and Madura. Of the total number of cases, 22% related to illicit distillation and kindred offences. The District Superintendent of Police in the Nilgiris, has reported that illicit distillation is prevalent in the wooded and hilly tracts of Gudalur and Kotagiri where the nature of the terrain makes detection difficult and that efforts are being made to achieve better results in the detection of illicit distillation in the areas. The number of cases of smuggling of liquor from foreign territory fell from 82 cases in December to 51 in January, mainly due to the decrease in Tanjore district which is attributed to the introduction of Prohibition in the adjoining French territory of Karaikal. The number of cases relating to intoxicating drugs dropped from 195 in December to 153 in January.

Assistance by officials of other department and non-officials:

The co-operation of the Police in the Ceded districts continued to be satisfactory. Their work in Guntur, Nellore, the Nilgiris and Malabar districts was also good. The taluk and village Prohibition Committees were not helpful in the detection of offices except in Cuddapah, Salem and Guntur districts There was co-operation from the Village Officers only in 7 of the 16 prohibition districts. Their work in Salem, North Arcot, Cuddapah, was good. The co-operation of outsiders other than regular informers was forthcoming to an appreciable extent

in Salem and North Arcot and to a limited extent in Chittoor, Nellore and Malabar. In other districts there was little or no co-operation.

II - Ameliorative work.

Substitutes for drink: Many private tea and coffee stalls have been opened in most of the districts. The de-control of sugar has given a fillip to these stalls. The branches of the Indian Tea Market Expansion Board in North Arcot and Madura continued to supply tea freely and at concessional rates to the ex-addicts of Gudiyattam and certain places in Madura district.

The use of sweet toddy as a non-intoxicating beverage was introduced as an experimental measure under the supervision of the first Assistant of the Board's Laboratory at two places in Salem district viz., Edappadi and Konganapuram, with effect from 1-1-1948. The juice was given free to ex-addicts and others at these places. Though it was no popular at Konganapuram, it was liked by the ex-addicts at Edappadi.

Rural Recreation: The 78 Rural Recreation Officers and ~~[illegible]~~ who were on duty during the month visited 1120 villages and organised rural games in 868 villages. 75 tournaments were held during the month. The sports conducted at Beluguppa in Anantapur district specially for Sugali women attracted a large crowd of women.

Bhajanas, Harikathas, Kalakshepams and Dramas:

Bhajanas, Harikathas and Kalakshepams were held in 1930 villages during the month. Folk dances, dramas or cinema shows were held at the instance of the Special Development Officers in 427 villages. Dramas were popular in all the districts. Dramatic troupes subsidised by the Government, staged dramas in Chittoor, Anantapur and Bellary districts.

Ballad singers:

57 ballad singers were on duty during the month. They visited 650 villages; organised community singing in 248 villages and trained 1562 villagers in community singing during the month.

Gramasangams:

745 Gramasangams were organised during the month. Out of the gramasangams formed till the end of the month, 3386 were active during the month. They attended to various beneficient activities.

Rural Uplift schools:

Rural uplift schools were conducted in the districts of Kurnool, the Nilgiris, Madura, Trichinopoly and Tanjore during the month.

Thrift:

Excluding the Nilgiris and Nellore districts for which figures were not received, a total of Rs.16299 was saved in hundi boxes during the month.

Co-operative Societies:

Co-operative Societies:

One weavers' society was registered in Madura district to provide work for the ex-addicts. Two mat weavers societies were organised in Tanjore district. A society for the manufacture of jaggery was registered in Malabar ~~district~~ and 13 similar societies were registered in South Kanara. Two palmyrah jaggery societies were ~~registered~~ organised in Guntur district and 5 societies were registered in Coimbatore district. Milk supply societies were organised in Tanjore, Trichinopoly and South Kanara districts.

Land Colonisation Societies:

In Salem district, 3 ex-tappers' land colonisation societies were assigned lands for cultivation. The Collector of Malabar offered to the ex-tappers the land available in Wynaad for colonisation on the same terms and conditions under which Government offered lands to ex-servicemen. The ex-tappers did not, however, come forward to settle on the land though wide publicity was given to the scheme among the ex-tappers. The Collector of Nellore organised a land colonisation society at Pollampad.

Uplift of women:

The lady organised of the I.W.C.C. in the Nilgiris and the Salem branch of the I.W.C.C. did useful propaganda among women. In 6 centres in the Salem district they were taught needle work knitting, spinning etc.

Employment to ex-tappers:

The position in the three districts in which the number effected was the largest, was as follows:-

Coimbatore: About 10,000 ex-tappers and their families were engaged in the manufacture of palmyrah jaggery.

Malabar: About 8000 ex-tappers had been provided with remunerative employment in jaggery production.

South Kanara: Licences had been issued to about 3500 members of Co-operative Societies for jaggery manufacture.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
Abstract.

PROHIBITION - Working of the Prohibition Act for January 1948 - Recorded.

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REVENUE DEPARTMENT.
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G.O.Ms.No.993. Dated 28th April 1948.

Read: From the Board of Revenue (Excise), No.4760-Abk/48-XF1, dated 26-2-1948.
From the Board of Revenue (Excise), R.No.376 Pro/48, dated 10-3-1948.

ORDER:

R E C O R D E D.

To the Board of Revenue (Excise).

(True copy)

R. Thiagarajan 29.1.54

RVD.17.12. OFFICE ASSISTANT, M.R.O.

29/1/54